



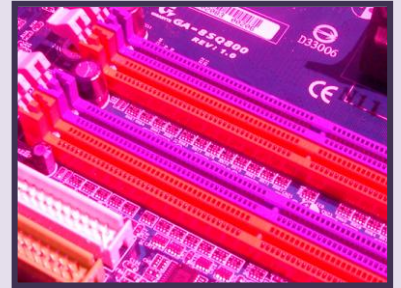
Issue 7

I magination and C reation with T echnology

This issue:

- Aviary Education, Jigsaw planet, Toondoo
- Isle of Tune
- Puzzlermaker
- Scholastic
- Geocube
- What's happening in classrooms

Issue 7



- There are still a few places left for the free [SMART Teachers Conference](#) on October 6 and 7 at North Sydney. Some of the workshops count for NSWIT registered hours.
- Beebots are available for everyone to use. There is a booking sheet on the whiteboard.
- Congratulations to Francesca, who was the first person to identify the QR code in Issue 4. A prize is on the way.
- When your class uses a lab, please ensure all computers are logged out at the end of your session. This prevents the computers locking other students out.
- There is a new homepage at school. The students' portal is now separate and we've added a few other (hopefully) useful links. If you can think of anything that needs to be added, or if a link is broken, please leave a message in the ICT blog.

SOMETHING FUN...

[Aviary Education](#)

- Easy online editing tools for images and music. Sign up for a free teacher's account.

[Jigsaw Planet](#)

- Complete the puzzles online or upload your own pictures and make a puzzle any size you choose.

[Toondoo](#)

- Create your own cartoons online. Drag and drop images, add text and you're done.

Have you....

Had a look at the DEC's new [staff communication tool](#)?

Here's a short video to explain why it's worth a look.

MUSIC WEBSITE...**ISLE OF TUNE***Have you seen...*

The DEC's *Learning Systems Implementation Team's* resource site?

This is where your colleagues across the state share resources for Smartboards, video conferences and general documents.

Access it via the following path:

Portal> My Websites>

Learning Systems Implementation Team.

When it asks you to log in, add @det after your name.



Introduce your students to basic music composition- perfect for any class kinder to year 6.

With an interface just like *The Sims*®, students build a neighbourhood by laying down a road. They can then add objects such as a house, lights, a tree or flowers. Each of these objects makes a different musical sound that is set by the student. When the neighbourhood is ready, add a car to the street and click 'Go'. The car is the player. As it drives past each object, the sounds are activated, and the piece of music plays. There are also pre-made 'loops' that can be added to the neighbourhood, or used to demonstrate how to create a melody.

Very easy to use and gives great results!

*Do you...*

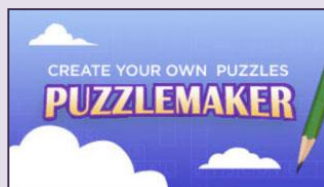
Need help with anything ICT?

- *Finding, choosing and using resources or equipment?*
- *Integrating ICT into your planning?*

If you leave a message on the [ICT blog](#), your question will usually be answered the same day.

There is time available on Fridays for team teaching, and time before or after school, or during break times can be arranged.

The blog is not just for broken equipment!

PUZZLE WEBSITE...

This is an old website, but maybe one you've forgotten about.

Puzzlemaker is an online tool for creating crosswords, findawords, mazes and other word-based puzzles.

Make them yourselves as an introduction for topic language or an extension to your spelling or sight word program. Display them on your SMARTboard and use the stylus pens to complete together, or maybe include as a reading groups activity.

So simple to use, the kids could make the puzzles themselves!

Puzzlemaker is part of the Discovery School site and has links to activities for other KLAs too.





FUN WEBSITE...

Looking for....



...something to fill the

gaps? This site has

[5 minute lesson ideas](#) for

literacy and maths

The parent section of Scholastic's website has some great activities for younger grades.

There are interactive stories including Clifford, Magic School Bus and Alice in Wonderland. Make your own I Spy game, just like the books.

You'll find lots of online games to play and a few videos to watch.

At the top of the site, there are links to the teachers' and librarian pages and here you can find much more great content, all related to Scholastic products.

Take some time to explore this site and you are bound to find something to enhance your programs.

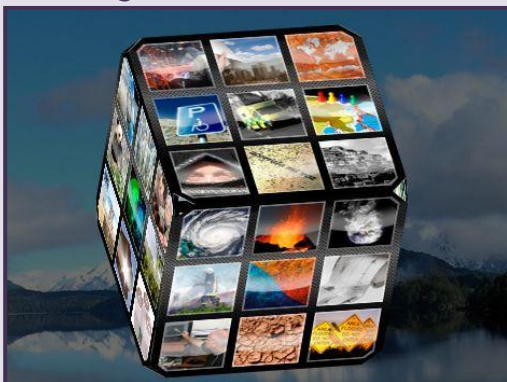
GEOGRAPHY WEBSITE...



[Geocube](#)

"Geocube is an attractive online resource about Geography. Geocube is based on the principle of the Rubik Cube with six faces and 54 topics. It is a virtual and easily accessible website which is available online for free. Move the Geocube around with your mouse and explore the faces and topics. Geocube provides an accessible way to read, see and watch what Geography is and geographers do. This is a European initiative developed by HERODOT, the European Network for Geography in Higher Education and is available to anyone who is interested in Geography."

A great idea for lesson breaks, to develop areas of interest or promote general knowledge.



Do you...

Like to use videos and games to supplement your teaching?

[NeoK-12](#) has thousands of videos for each KLA plus games and lesson ideas.



Click image to see the full interactive Popplet

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN CLASSROOMS...

From Karen Atkins at Shellharbour PS

Students in Stage 2 and 3 have used Popplet to summarise information presented to them about the Iceman discovered on September 19, 1991. A demonstration of how to create an account in Popplet (using their DET email) was given, along with a step by step guide through the features of Popplet. Information was displayed on the screen in the computer lab and read through together. Discussion was held about what points would be included in the Popplet so that their audience would have all the facts. Students then multitasked to Google images to find and embed pictures of Oetzi into their Popplet. The completed Popplet was then emailed to my DET address. Both the students and I enjoyed this activity and it even engaged students who struggle.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN CLASSROOMS...

This contribution is from Laura Chaffey at The Junction PS

Our school has purchased licenses for ComicLife and I'm currently working through a unit of work with my Stage2 students. The program has a simple interface which allows students to drag in images, captions, lettering text and speech bubbles as well as a wide range of styles and templates. It even allows you to create a comic on the spot using your webcam. ComicLife provides a wide variety of opportunities for your students to engage in quality Literacy activities.

I've recently introduced the program to my students in the form of a recount of a recent excursion. Students selected digital images from the excursion, added text boxes to describe locations and events. Additionally, they added some speech bubbles to add humour to the presentation. Once completed, the comics can be exported as a jpg which makes for easy uploading onto blogs and wikis.

I've also used this program to create end of year booklets for students. Each child created a comic strip using photos collected throughout the year of them participating in class events, on excursions, during sports carnivals or even assemblies. Each page was collated and printed as part of a class book celebrating the year.

These initial activities are ideal springboards into more detailed digital storytelling activities where students develop and maintain plots. Although time consuming, students can draw, save and upload their own images for the comics to make it a most original creation!

Finally, there are loads of other online comic book maker websites available on the internet. The free and easiest to use are listed on my own website - www.ictwithmissc.weebly.com

